

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ATHENS 07240 221653Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03

ACDA-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 IO-10 H-02 NSC-05 /091 W

----- 067058

P 221510Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 567

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

UNCLAS ATHENS 7240

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GR, FR

SUBJECT: VISIT TO GREECE OF FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING

1. FRENCH PRESIDENT VALERY GISCARD D'ESTAING VISITED GREECE SEPTEMBER 17-21, 1975, THE FIRST CHIEF OF STATE TO DO SO SINCE THE FALL OF THE JUNTA AND THE RETURN OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MRS GISCARD D'ESTAING, FOREIGN MINISTER JEAN SAUVAGNARGUES AND A SMALL ENTOURAGE OF OTHER FRENCH OFFICIALS, AS WELL AS SOME EIGHTY-ODD FRENCH NEWSMEN. THE PRESIDENT PAID AN OFFICIAL THREE-DAY VISIT TO ATHENS AND THESSALONIKI, FOLLOWED BY A PRIVATE TWO-DAY CRUISE TO THE GREEK ISLES WITH PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS

2. AFTER ARRIVING AT ELLINIKON AIRPORT ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, THE FRENCH PRESIDENT, PROCEEDED TO THE PILLARS OF ZEUS IN DOWNTOWN ATHENS WHERE HE RECEIVED THE KEY TO THE CITY FROM THE CITY'S MAYOR.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ATHENS 07240 221653Z

IN HIS FIRST ADDRESS, PART OF WHICH WAS IN GREEK, THE PRESIDENT

CAPTIVATED THE HEARTS OF THE GREEK PEOPLE. LATER THAT EVENING, PRESIDENT TSATSOS GAVE A STATE DINNER AT THE PRESIDENTIAL MANSION (THE FORMER ROYAL PALACE).

3. ON THURSDAY, GISCARD D'ESTAING PLACED A WREATH AT THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER. HE THEN MET WITH PRESIDENT TSATSOS FOR A BRIEF DISCUSSION, AND THEN WITH PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS FOR A LENGTHIER SESSION, IN WHICH THEIR TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS LATER JOINED. THE MEETING WAS FOLLOWED BY A LUNCHEON HOSTED BY CARAMANLIS. THAT EVENING, THE FRENCH PRESIDENT OFFERED A LARGE RECEPTION AND THEN RECIPROCATED THE OFFICIAL HOSPITALITY BY GIVING A FORMAL DINNER AT THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN HONOR OF HIS HOSTS

4. ON FRIDAY, GISCARD D'ESTAING TOURED THE ACROPOLIS AND THE FRENCH ARCHEOLOGICAL SCHOOL BEFORE FLYING TO THESSALONIKI WITH CARAMANLIS. DURING THEIR TOUR OF THAT NORTHERN GREEK CITY, THEY ALSO VISITED THE FRENCH CEMETERY FROM WORLD WAR I (AS HAD FORMER PRESIDENT DE GAULLE DURING HIS 1963 VISIT). THE FRENCH PRESIDENT HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE UPON HIS RETURN TO ATHENS LATER IN THE DAY

5. ON SATURDAY, AFTER THE OFFICIAL VISIT HAD ENDED, THE FRENCH PRESIDENT JOINTED PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS FOR A PRIVATE CRUISE TO THE GREEK ISLES IN THE IONIAN, RETURNING TO ATHENS ON SUNDAY. BIDDING FAREWELL TO THE GREEK PEOPLE AND THEIR LEADERS IN GREEK, PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING DEPARTED SUNDAY AFTERNOON FOR FRANCE

6. EACH EVENT GAVE OCCASION FOR PUBLIC REMARKS AND SPEECHES THE CONTENTS OF WHICH, AS WELL AS THE ATMOSPHERICS, WILL BE DESCRIBED IN GREATER DETAIL BY SEPARATE TELEGRAM.  
KUBISCH

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CHIEF OF STATE VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975ATHENS07240  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750328-0057  
**From:** ATHENS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750928/aaaaayav.tel  
**Line Count:** 92  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** RowellE0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 MAR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <26 MAR 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <09 FEB 2004 by RowellE0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT TO GREECE OF FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING  
**TAGS:** PFOR, OVIP, GR, FR, (GISCARD D'ESTAING, VALERY)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006